

The

WORKS Space



Department of Public Works Newsletter

Spring 2019



Director's Message

It's springtime in the "Spring City" and we are looking forward to the warmer weather ahead.

We have an ambitious agenda in the Department of Public Works this year starting with many road and utility reconstruction projects. We will appreciate your patience as you may have to detour or face the construction directly where you live.

We strive for minimizing the disruption of daily life as a result of the construction projects. Though, the work must be done in the name of progress, however, and inevitably requires some adjustment in the areas of active construction.

In the end, despite the temporary construction disruption, we end up proud of the progress we make in the city.

Thank you in advance for your patience and good attitude with the projects.

Dr. Fred Abadi, PhD, P.E.

Recycle with Confidence, Waukesha

Knowing what to recycle can be confusing. Admittedly, **what has been accepted for recycling has evolved** over the years. What's more, some things that are not accepted for recycling at home **may still technically be recyclable** if taken somewhere else.



Meanwhile, the recycling industry is facing a **major problem of receiving an increase in contamination**—things that are not accepted for recycling and shouldn't be put into the recycling bins. This contamination is leading to worldwide problems regarding the markets for recyclables which partially translates to rising costs locally.

With this in mind, here are some tips to know **how to recycle at home, work, and school** WITH CONFIDENCE that you will help the cause rather than hurt it:

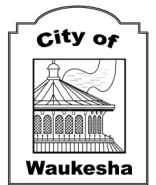
- 1) **Recycle the classic, simple things**—newspapers, cardboard, office paper, plastic water bottles and milk jugs, soup cans, aluminum cans, glass jars/bottles and cartons (orange juice, soy milk, etc.). These items are universal to good recycling.
- 2) **Don't try to recycle other random plastic, glass and metal things just because they are plastic, glass, or metal.** No toys, no glass from the coffee table, no metal tanks or tools or car parts. Stick to the classic basics listed above. Some of these other items may technically be recyclable, but not in your household, work, or school recycle bins.
- 3) **Always pour out liquids out of bottles, jugs, cans and cartons and always rinse food remnants from jars and other containers.** If you try to recycle a bottle with liquids still inside, it's probably not going to get recycled, but landfilled instead. And, yes, you can put the plastic cap back on after emptying.
- 4) **Never put recyclables in bags, especially plastic bags.** Plastic bags have never been accepted in household recycling and are the number one problem today. Simply place the above classic recyclables clean and loose into your recycle bin.
- 5) **"When in doubt, throw it out"** (in the trash). This is better than "guess recycling." But, the key is to not be in doubt—recycle the good stuff, as mentioned above!



City Brush/Branch Pickup—Week of April 29th, 2019

See Page 7 for details!

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



Project Update—E Main St



Beginning soon, the next phase of the Lake Michigan water acquisition project will begin on E Main St. from Lombardi Ave. to Manhattan Dr. This is a continuation of the first phase last year on E Main St. from Barstow Ave. to Lombardi Ave.

Although this project is managed by the Water Utility, with the primary goal of installing a connecting **24-inch water main pipe**, the Department of Public Works will be involved to oversee some aspects of infrastructure repair and upgrades.

Among the public works related aspects of the project are:

- E Main St. road reconstruction from Lombardi Ave. to Manhattan Dr.
- Reconstruction of the intersection of E Main St. and Perkins Ave.
- Reconstruction of Aurora St., to the south off of E Main St. to National Ave.
- Upgrade curb ramps on E Main St. to meet American Disability Act (ADA) standards.
- Sanitary sewer rehabilitation.

For this project, E Main St. will be closed except to local traffic for residents who live and work in the construction zone. Also, access will remain open to local businesses.



E Main St. from 2018 phase.

For more information regarding the entire Lake Michigan water project see the insert or visit: www.greatwateralliance.com



Project Update—Greenmeadow Pump Station



As previously reported in this newsletter, one of the most impactful projects currently underway in the City of Waukesha is the **Greenmeadow Pump Station elimination project**.

The project calls for replacing the old and inefficient pump station with a new 36-inch piping system which will use gravity alone to move wastewater to the Clean Water Plant.

Beginning in the fall of 2018, approximately 1,100 feet of sewer inceptor has been installed across Lowell Park and another 1,400 feet from Sentry Dr. under the Fox River to W St. Paul Ave.

Additionally, three 25-foot diameter shafts—including two about 60 feet deep—have been excavated to allow access for tunnel boring equipment. About 400 feet of tunnel has already been bored out of 2,400 total feet for the project.

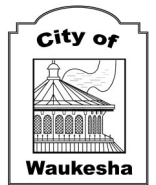
In April, the sewer installation will cross W St. Paul Ave and then continue up S Moreland Blvd in the southbound lanes. Construction will then continue down Dopp St and then up Joellen Dr where it will meet up with the tunnel section near American Ave.

The entire project is scheduled to be completed by mid-November.



For information about all Public Works projects, visit www.waukesha-wi.gov/1129/Construction-Projects

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



You Can Expect We Will Inspect

As the street and utility reconstruction season begins for the season in Waukesha, engineering staff technicians are ready for the task of ensuring high quality work during the projects.

The engineering office deploys inspectors for all public works reconstruction projects to observe the work being performed and serve as a liaison back to the city engineer.

Technicians are trained to understand the scope of the project, detailed specifications and the final standards the project must meet. Technicians also are familiar with the equipment and techniques necessary to complete a specific job.

They also maintain constant communication with the contractors regarding any issues with the project. If there are issues, the technicians may advise the contractor on next steps or they may report back to the city engineering office to make recommendations on remedies for the situation.

City inspectors often work from dawn until dusk during the height of the construction season when contractor crews work during all daylight hours. As projects can take anywhere from six weeks to several months, our inspectors return as often as needed.

So, rest assured for all public works reconstruction projects in Waukesha, expect we are inspecting for a job well done!



Property Owners—Your Sidewalk May Need Repair!

Every year, the city inspects public sidewalks for damage and safety issues. The process takes months to inspect the entire sidewalk system and identify the most dangerous spots for pedestrian traffic.

If a portion of sidewalk is deemed condemned, based on pre-determined criteria of broken concrete or a potential trip hazard, spray paint markings will indicate the spot for repair.

Per city ordinance, **the owner of the property adjacent to the sidewalk is responsible for the cost of repairs when the damage is due to weathering and aging.**

Property owners will receive a notification by mail if their sidewalk is condemned with instructions and options regarding their responsibility for repair.

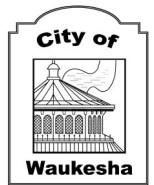
The city has a paving contractor available to do the repairs at the owners' expense, but property owners do have the option to seek their own contractor, who must be bonded with the city and take out the correct permits.

Sidewalk safety is a priority for the city and we appreciate owners' understanding and cooperation to keep the walkways safe for all users.



Sidewalk marked for repair.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



New—Purchase Parking Permits **Online!**

Purchasing parking permits has never been more perfect.

Beginning this April, customers may purchase parking permits for municipal surface lots or for overnight street parking online at www.buymypermit.com/waukesha.

The new online option to buy parking permits came as a result of action by the recently formed Downtown Parking Committee. The ad hoc committee was formed in November 2017 to study and make recommendations to enhance the parking experience downtown.



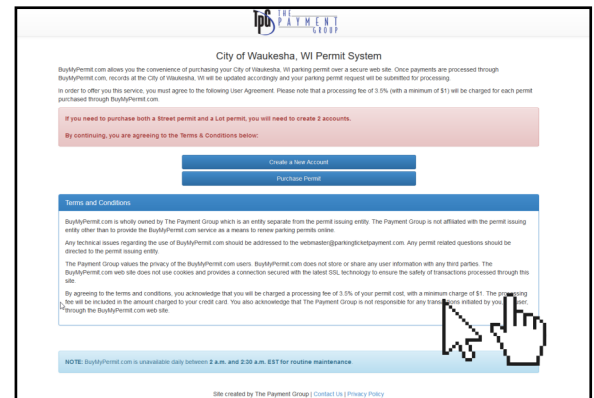
After hearing requests from customers for more convenient ways to purchase passes, the city moved forward with this online option.

Permits can be bought in 3-day, 30-day, 90-day or yearly increments.

In order to purchase the permits, customers must create a free account and pay online with a credit card. Note—there is a service charge for purchasing these permits online, depending which permit you buy.

Customers may still purchase ramp and surface lot permits in person at the South St. Ramp (241 South St.). Overnight parking permits may still be purchased in person at the police department (1901 Delafield St.).

For more information about Municipal Parking, please visit
www.waukesha-wi.gov/439/Municipal-Parking



Screen shot of new online parking permit website!

“Park In” Our Dust

That is—“pardon our dust!”

This spring and summer both the South St. Ramp and the Transit Ramp will begin \$1.4 million in structural upgrades including concrete repairs, membrane installation and lighting upgrades.



The projects will both enhance the structure and the parking experience for customers.

Customers will need to watch for notices as the access to certain areas in the ramps will be limited and the phasing will be constantly changing. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation!

First Two, Free

You could say, it’s “as easy as 1,2,3.”

The city is in the middle of a pilot program offering the first two hours parking at the **South St. ramp (241 South St.)** for free.

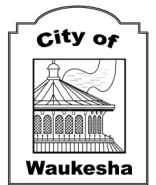
**2 HOURS
FREE
PARKING**

Since December 1st, 2018 **over 1,100 customers** have taken advantage of this program.

The city intends on re-evaluating the program by fall of 2019 to make decisions about the long-term feasibility of the 2-hour free parking option.

Until then, happy parking and patronizing downtown!

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



2019 Summer Youth Bus Pass

Summer is just around the corner! For just \$35, riders from ages 5 to 18 can ride Waukesha Metro Transit all summer long.

It is a Win-Win situation for families: parents can have the peace of mind that they have a safe, reliable, and inexpensive alternative to being their children's personal taxi service for the summer. And kids can have the freedom to go places when they want without having to wait until mom or dad is available.



The Summer Youth Pass is a special 3-month pass available to riders 5-18 years old. The pass is good for the months of **June, July, and August**.

Passes are on sale at eight Waukesha Metro Fare Outlet locations (the downtown Transit Center, downtown Waukesha State Bank and Associated Bank, Sentry Foods, the WCTC book store, and three Waukesha Pick 'N Save locations).



The \$35 price represents a \$55 savings over the cost of 3 individual Student Metro Passes. It is a small price to pay for a summer full of fun!

For questions regarding the Summer Youth Pass, please call **262-524-3636** or email transit@waukesha-wi.gov.

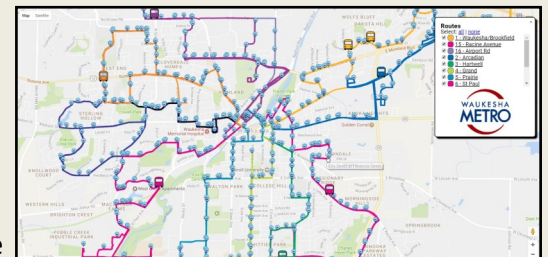
Bus Route Detours Due to Construction

With road and utility construction season coming into full swing, road closures will happen. When the road closures happen on a bus route, the bus routes need to be detoured.

Waukesha Metro Transit plans detours that are as close to the existing route and stops as possible, but also takes into account the safe operation of the bus and safety of the passengers. Unfortunately, some detours require a longer detour when there is not a safe and convenient alternative near the normal route.



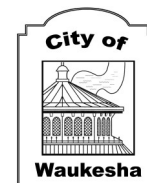
This spring and summer, there will be detours to several routes, some will be short term and some will be longer term. Waukesha Metro keeps the public informed of detours by posting **Rider Alerts** at the Transit Center, on the buses, on the **"Alerts"** page of the Metro website, and will also mark bus signs out of service in the affected areas. Major detours will also be included on the city's social media sites.



Metro Transit Bus Routes

To keep up to date on all bus route detours, click on the **Alerts** icon at www.waukeshametro.org or call 262-524-3636.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



Fat Free Sewers

Fats, oils, and grease aren't just bad for arteries and waistlines, they're bad for sewers, too.

Sewer overflows and backups can cause health hazards, damage home interiors, and threaten the environment. A common cause of overflows is sewer pipes blocked by grease. Grease gets into the sewer from household drains, as well as from poorly maintained grease traps in restaurants and other businesses.

Where does grease come from?

Grease is a byproduct when cooking with meat fats, lard, oils, shortening, butter, margarine, food scraps, baked goods, sauces, and dairy products. When washed down the sink, grease sticks to the insides of sewer pipes (both on your property and under the street). Over time, it can build up and block entire portions of your home's plumbing system and/or the city sewer.

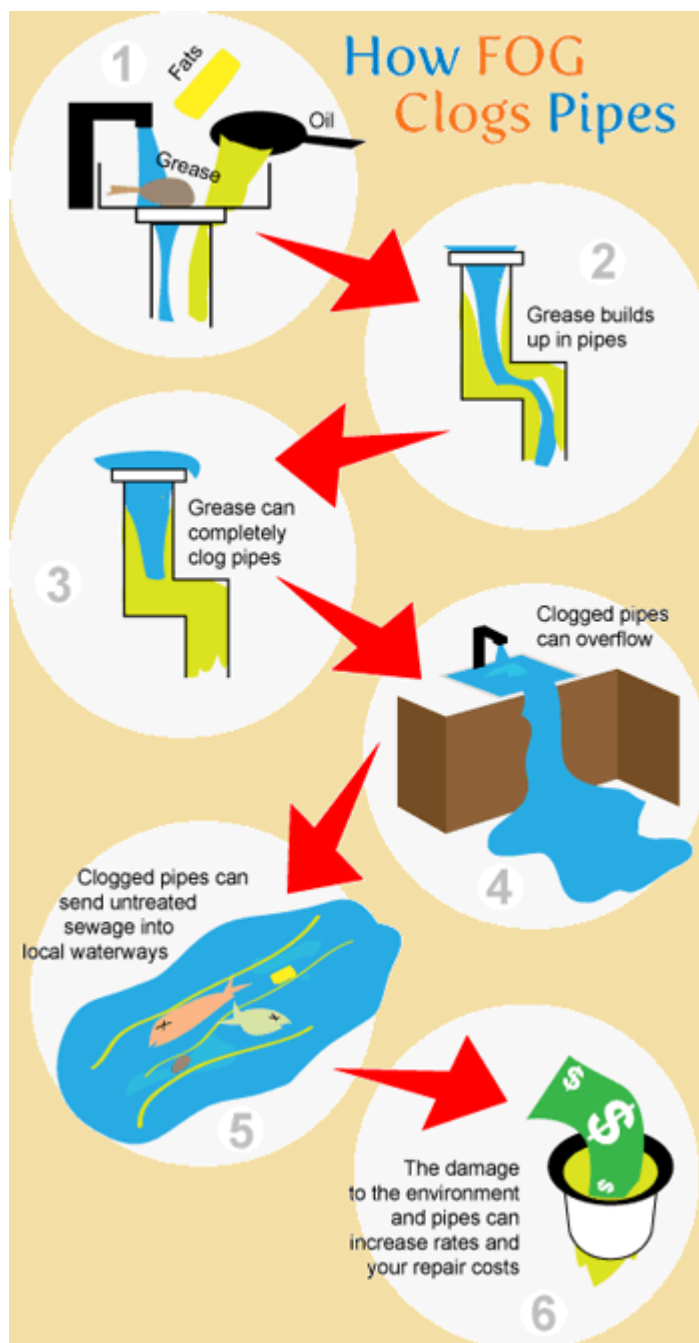
The consequences can be:

- Raw sewage overflowing into your home or the house next door.
- Potential contact with disease-causing organisms.
- An expensive and unpleasant cleanup often required to be paid by you, the home or business owner.
- Raw sewage flowing into parks, yards, streets, and streams.
- An increase in operations and maintenance costs for your Public Works Department, which causes higher sewer bills.

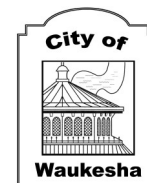
Helping prevent sewer overflows and backups is easy!

- 1) Never pour grease or oils down sink drains or into toilets.
- 2) Scrape grease and food scraps into the trash for disposal. Take cooking oil to the Dropoff Center for recycling.
- 3) Place basket strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids.
- 4) **Caution:** home garbage disposals do not keep grease out of the plumbing system. Moreover, hot water and products such as detergents that claim to dissolve grease only pass it down the line and cause problems elsewhere.

Fats, Oils, and Grease—Oh No!



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



Brush and Branches Pickup 2019

The Department of Public Works will conduct its **2019 brush and branch pickup service** the week of April 29th (**April 29th through May 3rd**).

The pickup will occur on your normal garbage service day, Monday through Friday.

Residents should follow these rules in regard to the brush/branch pickup service:

- 1) Residents may begin setting out their piles on the terrace **April 15th**.
- 2) Residents must have their brush/branches out by **7 a.m.** on the day of pickup.
- 3) Brush/branches **must be on the terrace (the grass area between the sidewalk and curb)**. Do NOT place material in the street and do NOT block the sidewalk.
- 4) Brush/branches should be set with the **butt ends at the curb** (unless the length of the branches blocks the sidewalk—then they need to be set the long way along the curb.)
- 5) Brush/branches can be up to **3 inches in diameter and 6 feet long**.
- 6) Small twigs and other yard waste, including leaves, will **not be collected**.
- 7) **ONLY** brush/branches should be set out. Absolutely NO other objects should be mixed in—including NO trash, rocks, dirt, ropes, bungee cords, or any other object besides brush or branches.
- 8) Branches/brush should **NOT be tied, bagged, or bundled together**. Keep as loose piles set on the ground.



DROP-OFF CENTER:

Residents may also bring their brush/branches to the City Drop-Off Center (750 Sentry Dr.) for no charge during open public hours that week (Wednesday, May 1st 11 a.m.—7 p.m. and Saturday, May 4th 8 a.m.—4 p.m.).

Wood Chips and Compost

One of the increasingly popular services offered in City of Waukesha is the free wood chips and compost made available to city residents at 900 Sentry Dr.

This material is meant for City of Waukesha residents only. Also, it is meant for residential use—not contractors or businesses. Mechanized equipment may not be used to load or haul material. Bring a shovel and a bucket!

Occasionally, the pile may run out. There is no set schedule of when the piles will be replenished—it depends on work loads for city staff as to when they can replenish the piles. Interested residents should continue to check the area to see if materials are available—there is no phone number to call to check if the pile is available.

The materials are available on a first-come, first-serve basis, while supplies last. Happy gardening!



City Hall Annex
130 Delafield St.
Waukesha, WI 53188

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DPW INFORMATION

CITY HALL ANNEX BUILDING (Engineering)
130 Delafield St.
Waukesha, WI 53188
262-524-3600

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS:

Dr. Fred Abadi, PhD, P.E. fabadi@waukesha-wi.gov

CITY GARAGE (STREETS): 262-524-3615

ENGINEERING: 262-524-3600

GARBAGE AND RECYCLING: 262-524-3600

METRO TRANSIT CENTER: 262-524-3636

PARKING SERVICES: 262-524-3622

CLEAN WATER PLANT: 262-524-3625

EMERGENCY: 911

WEBSITE: www.waukesha-wi.gov/422/Public-Works

EMAIL: DPW@waukesha-wi.gov

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Please email with feedback and suggestions!

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15—Mr. Corey Payne 262-853-9004 alddist15@waukesha-wi.gov



When you are finished with
this newsletter, please place
loose in recycle bin. Thank you!

CITY OF WAUKESHA

